



Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT Summer/Fall 2006

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT SUMMER/FALL 2006

| Start Date: May 15, 2006 | Closing Date: December 22, 2006 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total Number of Reports (All Sources) | 36 |
| Report Hate Web Site Reports: | 9 |
| 8 from undergraduate students | |
| 1 from graduate student | |
| Report from University Police: | 19 |
| 12 from undergraduate students | |
| 4 from police observation | |
| 3 from Residence Life assistants (students) | |
| Reported Directly to the Diversity Advocate: | 6 |
| 2 from undergraduate students | |
| 2 from graduate students | |
| 2 from student office | |
| Reported Directly to the Vice Provost for Education | al Equity: 2 |
| 2 from undergraduate students | • • |
| Distribution of Campus Locations for Reports: | |
| University Park Campus | 35 |
| Other Campus | 1 |
| | |

Statistical Breakdown for Bias Incidents Reported

Status of Targeted Persons:

Student = 26 (23 single individuals, one RA; 3 groups) University Office or Community in General = 10

Gender of Targeted Persons:

Male = 17 Female = 16

General Population = 10

Unknown = 2

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Sexual Orientation (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Person(s):
      Heterosexual = 12
      LGBT = 7 (1 Gay, 5 Lesbian, 0 Bisexual, 0 Transgender, all LGBT persons
         in general = 1)
      Unknown/Unidentified = 14
      Mistakenly Perceived to be LGBT = 9
Race/Ethnicity (Actual or Perceived) of Targeted Persons:
      White = 16
      Hispanic = 1
      Black = 4
      Asian = 8
      Pacific Islander = 0
      Indian = 0
      Bi/Multiracial = 0
      Unspecified/ Unrelated = 7
* In 26 cases, the targeted person and the submitter of the report were the same.
Submitter's Status:
      Student = 26
      Faculty = 0
      Staff = 1
      Unspecified = 2
      Residence Life = 3
      Administrator = 2
      Police = 2
Submitter's Gender:
      Male = 20
      Female = 14
      Unspecified = 2
Submitter's Sexual Orientation:
      Heterosexual = 11
      LGBT = 6 ( 3 Gay; 3 Lesbian; 0 Bisexual; 0 Transgender)
      Unspecified = 19
Submitter's Racial/Ethnic Identity:
      White = 17
      Hispanic = 1
      Black = 3
      Asian = 8
      Unspecified = 7
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Identification of Perpetrator(s) known (most often unknown), or believed to be:
       Student = 13
       Staff = 0
       Faculty = 2
       Other = 6
       Status Unknown = 15
       Gender Unknown = 18
       Male (actual or suspected) = 20
       Female (actual or suspected) = 2
       Males/Females together = 3 groups
       White = 10
       Black = 5 (includes persons of African ancestry)
       Hispanic = 0 (includes persons who identify with
       Hispanic/Latino Heritage more than with race)
       Asian = 1
       The rest remain undetermined, involving race.
       Individuals = 11
       Groups/Pairs = 10
       Organizations = 2
       Unknown = 12
       (Some incidents involved multiple perpetrators.)
Targeted Issues (motives behind the intolerance of perpetrators; sometimes multiple):
       Sexual Solicitation = 5
       Sexual Orientation = 12
       Race = 14
       Ethnicity/Culture = 4
       National Origin = 3
       Ancestry = 2
       Gender = 3
       Age = 1
       Political Views/ Philosophical Beliefs = 2
       Religious/Spiritual Beliefs = 15
       Disability/Perceived Illness = 0
       Departmental Affiliation = 1
       Physical Appearance = 8
       A "Joke" = 2
       Alienation of Affection = 2
       Unknown = 9
Type of Offense (how bias was demonstrated--may involve more than one type):
       Harassment (verbal/written/e-mail/phone) = 23
       Verbal Comment = 20
       Threat/Intimidation = 5
       Physical Assault = 2
       Attempted Assault = 5
       Graffiti = 8
       Vandalism = 5
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Written note or e-mail = 10
Poster/Flier = 1
Grading = 1
Media/Newspaper Bias = 0
Hostile Attitude/Environment Created = 15
Blocking the Entrance to a University Building = 5

Geographic Location:

On Campus = 34

Off Campus = 2

Month Incident Occurred:

June = 3

July = 2

August = 6

September = 5

October = 11

November = 7

December = 2

Day of Incident:

Sunday = 4

Monday = 8

Tuesday = 2

Wednesday = 2

Thursday = 8

Friday = 7

Undetermined = 1

Time of Incident:

6:00 a.m. to Noon = 3

Noon to 6:00 p.m. = 3

6:00 p.m. to Midnight = 6

Midnight to 6:00 a.m. = 11

Time Unspecified = 13

Intoxicant Involved:

Yes = 0

No or Unknown = 36

Weapon Involved:

Yes = 1

No or Unknown = 35

Bias Motivated Incidents Report Discussion

- A total of thirty-six incidents were reported for summer/fall 2006 compared to sixteen total reports for summer/fall 2005.
- Incidents in this report were not rated in terms of their perceived severity, but were given equal weight. It is decidedly the targeted person who can know the impact of the offense and just how they are affected by it
- Confidentiality of identities and information is kept, unless otherwise indicated by the submitter or targeted person.
- Some incidents are and can be categorized under multiple targeted issues (i.e., one report was categorized under both age and gender); multiple types of offenses (i.e., one report was categorized under both vandalism and graffiti); and other multiple identifiers that naturally occur, overlap, and exist in the real world (i.e., Black and Hispanic, White and Hispanic, Jewish and White, Arab and Asian, Muslim and Asian, Muslim and White, Biracial, Multiracial, Multiethnic, etc.) A good attempt has been made to keep things simple, while providing an accurate and important picture of an incident and the probable motive for its occurrence.
- The words "Targeted Person(s)" were used in this report to replace the word "victim," which more accurately identifies the target person.
- The primary target was the one recorded for statistical purposes. However, in a number of incidents reported, more than one person was targeted in the report. Additionally, in a few incidents reported, the public in general or the entire Penn State community was the designated target.
- Most of the incidents represented in this report reflect acts of intolerance or bias behavior. Two have been reported as violent physical attacks. While some of these incidents could be considered questionable interpretations of Policies AD29 and AD42, these incidents do contribute to a general assessment in the minds of many as indicators of a negative campus climate for diversity, which ultimately impacts the University's academic goals.
- Actual or perceived sexual orientation, racial identity, and gender identity, were motives for bias behavior and acts of intolerance.
- All of the thirty-six incidents reported, except one, were from the University Park campus.